(c) and (d) The withdrawal of provisions for commutation of pension has not reduced any benefit in pension. This has been done with a view to make the pension scheme more efficient and sustainable.

Revision of minimum wages

528. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) how revision of minimum wage is carried out by Ministry;

(b) the sector-wise figure/amount of minimum wage in unskilled, semi-skilled and skilled category of workers as on 31st March, 2008;

(c) whether Government has revised minimum wages in Oil Exploration Industry; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) The norms recommended by the Indian Labour Conference, in 1957 for fixing the minimum wage are as follows:-

i) 3 consumption units for one earner.

ii) Minimum food requirements of 2700 calories per average Indian adult.

iii) Clothing requirements of 72 yards per annum per family.

iv) Rent corresponding to the minimum area provided for under Government's Industrial Housing Scheme.

v) Fuel, lighting and other miscellaneous items of expenditure to constitute 20% of the total minimum wage.

In the year 1992, the Supreme Court delivered a judgment in the case of Reptakos & Co. *Vs.* its workers pronouncing that the children's education, medical requirement, minimum recreation including festivals/ceremonies, provision for old age, marriage etc. should further constitute 25% of the minimum wage and used as a guide in fixation of minimum wage. The appropriate Governments keep the above said norms and judicial pronouncement in view while fixing/revising the minimum wages.

(b) to (d) Under the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, both Central and State Governments are the appropriate Governments to notify any employment in the schedule where the number of employees is 1000 or more and fix the rates of minimum wages in respect of the employees employed therein under their respective jurisdictions. Sector-wise minimum wages are not fixed.

Under Section 3(1) (b) of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the minimum rates of wages are reviewed/revised at such interval not exceeding five years. Minimum rates of wages for different categories of workers in different scheduled employments in the Central Sphere is applicable to the Oil Exploration Industry as well, details of which are given in the Statement.

Statement

Area-wise Rates of Minimum Wages for Scheduled Employments in the Central Sphere

Name of Scheduled Employment		Effective Date	Category of Worker	Rates of wages including V.D.A per day (in Rs.)		
				Area A	Area B	Area C
1.	Agriculture	01.04.2009	Unskilled	142.00	129.00	127.00
			Semi-Skilled/Unskilled Supervisory	156.00	144.00	132.00
			Skilled/Clerical	170.00	156.00	143.00
			Highly Skilled	189.00	175.00	156.00
2.	Workers engaged in Stone Mines for Stone Breaking and Stone Crushing	01.04.2009	1. Excavation & removal of over burden with 50 meters lead/1.5 meters lift:			
			(a) Soft Soil		133.60	
			(b) Soft Soil with Rock		202.88	
			(c) Rock		268.24	
			2. Removal and Staking of rejected stones with 50 metres lead 1.5 metres lift stone breaking or stone crushing for the stone size		106.50	
			(a) 1.0 inch to 1.5 inches		832.91	
			(b) Above 1.5 inches to 3.0 inches		711.50	
			(c) Above 3.0 inches to 5 inches		415.92	
			(d) Above 5.0 inches		341.16	
3.	Sweeping and Cleaning	01.04.2009	Uskilled	199.00	166.00	133.00
4.	Watch and Ward	01.04.2009	Without Arms	199.00	166.00	133.00
			With arms	221.00	188.00	155.00
5.	Loading and Unloading	20.05.2009	Uskilled	180.00	150.00	120.00
6.	Construction	20.05.2009	Unskilled	180.00	150.00	120.00
			Semi-Skilled/Unskilled Supervisory	200.00	170.00	140.00
			Skilled/Clerical	220.00	200.00	170.00
			Highly Skilled	240.00	220.00	200.00
7.	Non-Coal Mines	20.05.2009		Above Ground		Below Ground
			Unskilled	120.00		150.00
			Semi-skilled/Unskilled Supervisory	150.00		180.00
			Skilled/Clerical	180.00		210.00
			Highly Skilled	210.00		240.00

AREA "A"

Ahmedabad	(UA)	Hyderabad	(UA)
Bangaluru	(UA)	Kanpur	(UA)
Kolkata	(UA)	Lucknow	(UA)
Delhi	(UA)	Chennai	(UA)
Greater Mumbai	(UA)	Nagpur	(UA)

AREA "B"

Agra	(UA)	Jamshedpur	(UA)
Ajmer		Jodhpur	
Aligarh		Kochi	(UA)
Allahabad	(UA)	Kolhapur	(UA)
Amravati		Kozhikode	(UA)
Aurangabad	(UA)	Kota	
Bareilly	(UA)	Ludhiana	
Bhavnagar		Madurai	(UA)
Bikaner		Meerut	(UA)
Bhopal		Moradabad	(UA)
Bhubaneshwar		Mysore	(UA)
Amritsar		Nasik	(UA)
Chandigarh	(UA)	Pune	(UA)
Coimbatore	(UA)	Patna	(UA)
Cuttack	(UA)	Raipur	(UA)
Durgapur		Rajkot	
Faridabad Complex		Ranchi	(UA)
Ghaziabad	(UA)	Sholapur	(UA)
Gorakhpur		Srinagar	(UA)
Guwahati	City	Surat	(UA)
Guntur		Thiruvanantapuram	(UA)
Gwalior	(UA)	Vadodara	(UA)
Indore	(UA)	Varanasi	(UA)
Hubli-Dharwad		Vijayawada	(UA)
Jabalpur	(UA)	Vishakhapatnam	(UA)
Jaipur	(UA)	Warangal	

Area 'C will comprise all areas not mentioned in this list.

NB: U.A. stands for Urban Agglomeration.